

and All-Area recognition. Some say her roots run purple. She finished her degree and volleyball career at Texas A&M playing on the Aggie Volleyball team. The Aggies would say her blood runs maroon.

Her team's record is impressive. In an interview earlier this month, Coach Miser said, "these groups of girls play for each other; they are friends on and off the court." Coach Miser's passion along with Assistant Coaches Cameron Shoffner and Kasey Price will continue to guide the girls far beyond a State title. The leadership of a coach works to instill values of hard work and discipline on and off the court. The community is proud of these coaches for all their accomplishments.

Congratulations to the seven seniors on this State championship team: Katey Searcy, Sydney Kolar, Tori Marquez, Andie Unwin, Julia Hadley, Emma Joy Omenson, and Yates Barker. Thanks for working hard and being model students in and out of the classroom for all students to follow.

Congratulations to Kingwood Park's State Championship team who will return next year to defend the title: Emma Garcia, Libby Overmyer, Avery Hill, Hallie Ryan, Citlaly Paz, Ericka Williams, Alia Williams, and Anya Arrington.

Shout out to the trainers, managers, teachers, family and fans for the outpouring of support. It was in true Panther Pride.

Way to go Panthers.

And that's just the way it is.

#### HONORING THE LAO VETERANS OF AMERICA

##### HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor the Wisconsin Lao Veterans of America, Inc. (WLVA), an organization founded in 1991 to serve the Lao Veteran community in Wisconsin by advancing the opportunities and recognition for those who fought in the CIA's secret war in Laos.

This organization has been instrumental in helping the Hmong-Lao veterans to adjust to life in the United States, and has shaped their experience here in Wisconsin through assistance in assimilation, recognition, and societal advancement.

WLVA was founded in 1991 by General Vang Pao, who was the commander of the "Secret Army" which was conscripted by the CIA to fight against the People's Army of Vietnam. He was the only ethnic Hmong to be elevated to the position of General in the Royal Lao Army.

Currently, Captain Nao Shoua Xiong of Wausau, WI leads the WLVA as their president, and has been at the forefront of assisting the Hmong community in all aspects of life in Wisconsin.

On behalf of the residents of Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District, I would like to thank the Wisconsin Lao Veterans of America for their service to our country and our community.

#### HONORING GARET ROSS HOLCOMB

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Garett Ross Holcomb. Garett is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Garett has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Garett has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Garett has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Garett for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### CELEBRATING PAT FREEMAN'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

##### HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the guidance and outstanding leadership Mrs. Pat Freeman has brought to senior adults in 13 Northeast Georgia counties.

Recently, the Legacy Link board recognized Mrs. Freeman for her outstanding work and dedication, as founder and Chief Executive Officer, for over 20 years. She received a Lifetime Achievement Award on Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at the agency's Thanksgiving luncheon.

In 1997, Mrs. Freeman created the nonprofit Legacy Link Area Agency on Aging with four employees. Since then she has been assisting the aging population of our region by offering wellness programs, employment training, Medicare counseling, grant applications, and counseling for grandparents who are primary caregivers for their grandchildren. Mrs. Freeman's team has grown to include more than 100 employees.

Legacy Link serves roughly 1,300 people, and its overarching goal is to allow seniors to live comfortably in their own homes as long as possible. In addition, Legacy Link also advocates for quality care for seniors who live in nursing care facilities.

My mother worked for Legacy Link, so I share in understanding the hard work, dedication, and the importance of their mission. I celebrate Mrs. Freeman's devotion to our senior adults and wish her the best as she transitions to working part-time.

#### HONORING DOUG MENORCA

##### HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a longtime friend and member of my staff, Doug Menorca, for his work in my office and his service to our state.

Doug has served as my Chief of Staff throughout my entire time in Congress. His dedication to our team has been unmatched, and there's no doubt I could not have done this job without him. As the leader of our staff, he was the glue that held our team together. Doug has also been a trusted adviser and incredible friend to my family and me.

On a personal note, words cannot express my gratitude to Doug for his help in this journey. Generations ago, Harry Truman famously said, "if you want a friend in Washington, get a dog." That's a funny line, but Truman was wrong. I believe that if you want a friend in Washington, you better find a partner. And, I am proud and grateful that Doug Menorca was my loyal partner in this effort.

The Messer family thanks the Menorca family for all their help through the years. We wish Doug, Diane and Sam continued success in all that God has planned for their family.

#### HONORING COUNCILWOMAN AND FORMER MAYOR DEBBIE LONG

##### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Councilwoman and Former Mayor Debbie Long on her retirement after serving on the Pinole City Council for the past ten years.

Ms. Long has been a resident of Pinole for more than thirty years. Prior to her time on the City Council, Ms. Long demonstrated her commitment to public service. She was on the City of Pinole Design Review Board from 1994 to 1996, was a Pinole Planning Commissioner from 1996 to 2007 and served on the Pinole Assisted Living Board for many years.

Ms. Long was first elected to the Pinole City Council in 2008. During her tenure she has served as mayor three times—from 2009 to 2010, from 2012 to 2013 and from 2016 to 2017. While on the Pinole City Council, Ms. Long helped accomplish numerous significant development projects for our community, including the Gateway Shopping Center, the Kaiser Medical Center, and the Pinole Valley Skate Park. She has also been heavily involved with the construction of the Pinole Wastewater Pollution Control Plant Upgrade project. Additionally, Ms. Long worked on the 2010 City of Pinole General Plan Update when she was on the Planning Commission and on the City Council.

Ms. Long is known among her colleagues for being hard-working and well prepared. She makes sure she has done her homework and closely reviews all staff reports.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Long has been an admirable public servant throughout her time on the City Council. It is therefore fitting and